AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for executing a lighting program to control a plurality of lights, the lighting program defining a sequence of states for the plurality of lights, the method comprising acts of:

(A) transferring the lighting program from a first device on which the lighting program was created to at least one computer readable medium and storing the lighting program on the computer readable medium, the lighting program being transferred in a data format having a plurality of frames, each one of the plurality of frames corresponding to one state in the sequence of states for the plurality of lights, and the lighting program being stored by storing a specific frame for each of the states, the data format representing a final data stream ~~capable of~~ <u>for</u> directly controlling the plurality of lights <u>without format conversion</u>;

(B) coupling the computer readable medium to a second device that is not coupled to the first device;

(C) coupling the second device to the plurality of lights; and

(D) executing the lighting program on the second device by reading the plurality of frames from the computer readable medium and passing the final data stream <u>from the second device</u> to the plurality of lights to control the plurality of lights to execute the sequence.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one computer readable medium comprises a first computer readable medium, and wherein the act (A) includes an act of transferring the lighting program from the first device to the first computer readable medium via a second computer readable medium and storing the lighting program on the second computer readable medium, so that the lighting program is transferred from the first device to the second computer readable medium and from the second computer readable medium to the first computer readable medium and stored on the first computer readable medium.

3. (Cancelled)

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4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the lighting program is a first lighting program, and wherein the method further includes acts of:

        (E)   transferring a second lighting program in the data format having the plurality of frames to the at least one computer readable medium so that the computer readable medium simultaneously stores both the first and second lighting programs; and

        (F)   executing the second lighting program on the second device by reading the second lighting program from the computer readable medium to control the plurality of lights.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the act (E) includes an act of transferring the second lighting program to at least one computer readable medium from the first device.

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, further including an act of, during execution of the first lighting program in act (D), switching to execution of the second lighting program in act (F) in response to an input received at the second device from an external device.

9.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, further including an act of, during execution of the first lighting program in act (D), switching to execution of the second lighting program in act (F) in response to an input received from a user at the second device.

10.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, further including an act of, during execution of the first lighting program in act (D), switching to execution of the second lighting program in act (F) in response to an input received at the second device from a sensor.

11.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one

of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to an input received at the second device from an external device.

12.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to an input received at the second device from an external device.

13.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a new speed in response to an input received at the second device from an external device.

14.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a new speed in response to a sensor input received at the second device.

15.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to a sensor input received at the second device.

16.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to a sensor input received at the second device.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act (B) includes an act of coupling the computer readable medium to a display-less second device.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act (B) is performed before the act (A).

19.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the act (C) includes an act of disposing the computer readable medium within the second device.

20.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act (A) includes an act of transferring a device controlling program capable of directly controlling at least one non-light device in addition to the plurality of lights; and

          wherein the act (D) includes reading the device controlling program from the computer readable medium and passing a control data stream to the at least one non-light device to control the at least one non-light device.

21.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to a timing device coupled to the second device.

22.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to a timing device disposed within the second device.

23.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to a timing device coupled to the second device.

24.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the

lighting program in act (D), changing a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to a timing device disposed within the second device.

25.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a new speed in response to a timing device coupled to the second device.

26.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, further including an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a second speed in response to a timing device disposed within the second device.

27.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the second device is coupled to a cue table that identifies various actions to be taken during execution of the lighting program in response to at least two inputs received at the cue table, and wherein the method further includes an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a new speed in response to an output of the cue table.

28.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the second device is coupled to a cue table that identifies various actions to be taken during execution of the lighting program in response to at least two inputs received at the cue table, and wherein the method further includes an act of, during execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to an output of the cue table.

29.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the second device is coupled to a cue table that identifies various actions to be taken during execution of the lighting program in response to at least two inputs received at the cue table, and wherein the method further includes an act of, during

execution of the lighting program in act (D), changing an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to an output of the cue table.

30. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium encoded with a lighting program that, when executed, controls a plurality of lights and defines a sequence of states for the plurality of lights, the lighting program being encoded in a data format that represents a final data stream ~~capable of~~ for directly controlling the plurality of lights without format conversion, the data format having a plurality of frames, each one of the plurality of frames corresponding to one state in the sequence of states for the plurality of lights, wherein encoding the computer readable medium includes storing a specific frame for each of the states, the data format representing a final data stream capable of directly controlling the plurality of lights to execute the sequence.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the lighting program is a first lighting program, and wherein the computer readable medium is further encoded with a second lighting program in the data format having the plurality of frames that, when executed, controls the plurality of lights.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Withdrawn) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the lighting program includes at least one variable that, at execution time, is to be provided by a device to which the computer readable medium is coupled.

36. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the lighting program

includes data to control at least one non-light device in addition to the plurality of lights.

37.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for executing a lighting program to control a plurality of lights, the lighting program defining a sequence of states for the plurality of lights, the apparatus comprising:

at least one storage medium to store the lighting program in a data format having a plurality of frames, each one of the plurality of frames corresponding to one state in the sequence of states for the plurality of lights, and the lighting program being stored by storing a specific frame for each of the states, the data format representing a final data stream ~~capable of~~ for directly controlling the plurality of lights without format conversion;

a network output port for providing an external interface to directly communicate with the plurality of lights; and

at least one controller that executes the lighting program by reading the plurality of frames from the at least one storage medium and passing the final data stream to the network output port, which in turn passes the final data stream to the plurality of lights to control the plurality of lights.

38.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 37, further including an input port, coupled to the at least one storage medium, to enable the lighting program to be loaded into the at least one storage medium from another device while the at least one storage medium is disposed in the apparatus.

39.-41.   (Cancelled)

42.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the lighting program is a first lighting program, and wherein the at least one storage medium further includes a second lighting program stored thereon in the data format having the plurality of frames.

43.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 42, further including a user interface that enables selection between the first and second lighting programs for execution.

44.   (Cancelled)

45.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 42, further including at least one input to receive information from an external device concerning an external environment, and wherein the controller automatically, without user intervention, switches from execution of the first lighting program to execution of the second lighting program in response to the received information.

46.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, further including at least one input to receive information from an external device concerning an external environment, and wherein the at least one controller includes means for, during execution of the lighting program, changing a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to the received information.

47.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, further including at least one input to receive information from an external device concerning an external environment, and wherein, during execution of the lighting program, the controller changes an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to the received information.

48.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, further including at least one input to receive information from an external device concerning an external environment, and wherein, the at least one controller includes means for, during execution of the lighting program, changing an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to the received information.

49.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, further including at least one input to receive information from an external device concerning an external environment, and wherein, during execution of the lighting program, the controller changes a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed

parameter to a new parameter in response to the received information.

50.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, further including at least one input to receive information from an external device concerning an external environment, and wherein, during execution of the lighting program, the controller changes a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a new speed in response to the received information.

51.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 37, in combination with a sensor, wherein the apparatus further includes at least one input coupled to the sensor to receive information concerning an external environment, and wherein, during execution of the lighting program, the controller automatically, without user intervention, changes a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a new speed in response to the received information.

52.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 37, in combination with a sensor, wherein the apparatus further includes at least one input coupled to the sensor to receive information concerning an external environment, and wherein, during execution of the lighting program, the controller automatically, without user intervention, changes an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to the received information.

53.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 37, in combination with a sensor, wherein the apparatus further includes at least one input coupled to the sensor to receive information concerning an external environment, and wherein, during execution of the lighting program, the controller automatically, without user intervention, changes a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to the received information.

54.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the apparatus is display-less.

55.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the lighting program is further capable of directly controlling at least one non-light device in addition to the plurality of lights.

56.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 37, further including at least one timer that is coupled to the at least one controller so that the at least one controller can alter execution the lighting program based on the timer.

57.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, further comprising:

        at least one input to receive information from an external device concerning an external environment; and

        a cue table that identifies various actions to be taken during execution of the lighting program in response to the received information;

        wherein the cue table has an output coupled to the at least one controller so that the at least one controller can alter execution of the lighting program based upon the output of the cue table.

58.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the at least one controller, during execution of the lighting program, changes a parameter of at least one effect assigned, in the lighting program, to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed parameter to a new parameter in response to the output of the cue table.

59.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the at least one controller, during execution of the lighting program, changes an effect assigned in the lighting program to at least one of the plurality of lights from a programmed effect to a new effect in response to the output of the cue table.

60.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the at least one controller, during execution of the lighting program, changes a speed at which the lighting program is executed from a programmed speed to a new speed in response to the received information.

61.　　(Original) The apparatus of claim 57, wherein the at least one input includes a plurality of inputs, and wherein the cue table includes a plurality of functions to interpret actions to be taken during execution of the lighting program based upon combined information received at the plurality of inputs.

62.-84.　(Cancelled)

85.　　(Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the lighting program is created on a first device, and wherein the computer readable medium is not coupled to the first device when the lighting program is executed.

86.　　(Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the lighting program is created on a first device, and wherein the apparatus is not coupled to the first device when the lighting program is executed.